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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of:

JAKOB, *et al.*

Appl. No.: 09/961,395

Filed: September 25, 2001

**For: Granular Sodium Carbonate Obtained
By Fluid-Bed Spray Granulation and a
Process for its Production**



Art Unit: to be assigned

Examiner: to be assigned

Atty. Dkt. 21123/265258

Information Disclosure Statement

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Submitted herewith is a listing of documents known to Applicants and/or their attorney in compliance with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. § 1.56. Copies of the listed documents are enclosed.

Applicants do not waive any rights to appropriate action to establish patentability over any of the listed documents should they be applied as references against the claims of the present application. This statement should not be construed as a representation that more material information does not exist or that an exhaustive search of the relevant art has been made.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3), Applicants' undersigned attorney submits the following concise explanation of the relevance of the non-English language documents cited on the accompanying form:

Reference OR, foreign document DE 43 29 205, discloses a process of manufacturing sodium percarbonate granules from sodium carbonate solutions, hydrogen peroxide and water. The process takes place without phosphorus crystallization inhibitors, by fluidized bed granulation using a ternary atomizing spray head. An English language abstract corresponding to this document is enclosed herewith and is cited on the accompanying list of references as

document XR. In addition, a counterpart United States patent, (U.S. 5,560,896) is enclosed and is cited on the accompanying list of references as document DR.

Reference PR, foreign document DE 26 44 147, discloses the production of a dense, coarse-grained, sodium percarbonate that is resistant to abrasion. The process involves reacting sodium carbonate with hydrogen peroxide. An English language abstract corresponding to this document is enclosed herewith and is cited on the accompanying list of references as document YR. In addition, a counterpart United States patent, (U.S. 4,118,466) is enclosed and is cited on the accompanying list of references as document BR.

Reference QR, foreign document DE 27 33 935, discloses sodium percarbonate granules that may be used in washing powders. The granules contain a metaphosphate that increases stability. An English language abstract corresponding to this document is enclosed herewith and is cited on the accompanying list of references as document ZR. In addition, a counterpart United States patent, (U.S. 4,428,914) is enclosed and is cited on the accompanying list of references as document CR.

This IDS is intended to be in full compliance with the rules, but should the Examiner find any part of its required content to have been omitted, prompt notice to that effect is earnestly solicited, along with additional time under Rule 97(f), to enable Applicants to comply fully.

Consideration of the cited documents and making the same of record in the prosecution of the above-captioned application are respectfully requested. Any fee necessary

for the filing of this document may also be charged to our Deposit Account No. 03-3975 under Order No. 21123/265258.

Respectfully submitted,

PILLSBURY WINTHROP LLP

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Michael A. Sanzo". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a long, sweeping tail on the final letter.

Michael A. Sanzo
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